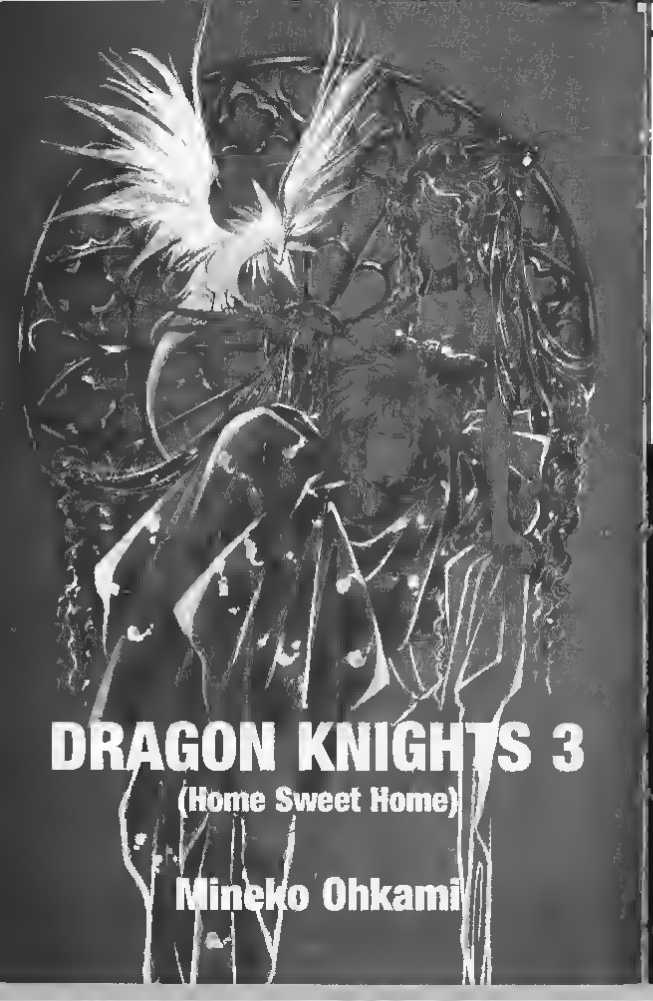
Dragon Knights

Mineko Ohkami

3

TOKYOPOP



DRAGON KNIGHTS 3

(Home Sweet Home)

Mineko Ohkami

Lykaoleon

Roselleane

Ruwalk

Kaistern

Alfeegi

Tetheus

Cernazura

Cesra

Zama

Bermaz

Shyrendara

Shyderman

Nadif

Dragon Knights (Home Sweet Home) 3
Information and My Life 207

THE SUN'S TOO BRIGHT.
IT HURTS.
IT BURNS!

IF HE FINDS ME, HE'LL KILL ME.
...BUT GIVES ME LIFE.
THE DRAGON LORD TORTURES THEM...
SHYDEMAN! WHEN WILL LORD NADIL REAWAKEN?
ARE YOU IN PAIN?
I MUST PROTECT HER!
BUT I MUST HELP CESIA.
HELP US!
WE NEED LORD NADIL!
HE WILL KILL US ALL!
THE DRAGON LORD GROWS STRONGER EVERY DAY!

LORD NADIL'S RESURRECTION MUST WAIT FOR NOW.
WE HAVE A BIGGER PROBLEM
HE TOOK CESIA TO THE WITCH WHEN SHE WAS A BABY.
THAT'S NADIL'S AIDE, SHYDE-MAN.
I WISH I COULD ASK HIM ABOUT IT...
AND ...
WE KNOW WHY.
...BUT HE'D ONLY CAPTURE HER.
THE DRAGON LORD'S POWER IS GROWING.

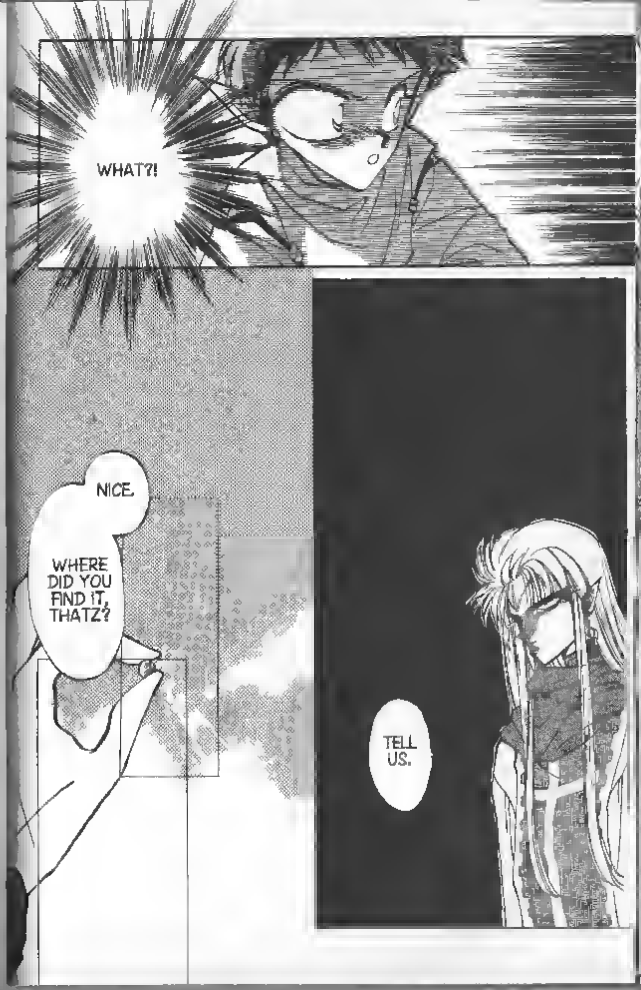
LORD NADIL REMAINS IN HIS GRAVE.
WE NEED CESIA, BUT JILGE FAILED HER MISSION.
KILL HER!
KILL HER!
SHE WILL NOT FAIL AGAIN.
YOU MAY EAT HER.
DID THAT LADY SCREW UP?

BEFORE ANY OTHER YOKAI STEALS IT!
RETRIEVE LORD NADIL'S HEAD!
WHO CARES ABOUT THE GIRL?
FOOLS.
AND THAT IS WHY I AM NOW IN CHARGE.
WHO KNOW LORD NADIL'S PLAN.
SHYRENDORA AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES ...

WHO'S CESIA?
THE WITCH'S FOSTER CHILD.
WE'VE LOST CESIA, THE GIRL FROM THE MISTY VALLEY.
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT CESIA! WHY?!
AND WHY IS SHE SO IMPOR-TANT?

NO! THEY'LL NEVER LOOK FOR HER THERE...
I KNOW WHERE CESIA IS.
BUT IF THEY FIND HER...
I WON'T LET 'EM HAVE HER!
EVEN IF CESIA IS NO LONGER YOKAI, I'LL PROTECT HER.
HEH, HEH... OKAY, YOU WANT THE GIRL, EH? FROM MISTY VALLEY?
WHAT'S SHE LOOK LIKE?
WE'LL FIND HER!
IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO COOPERATE,
I WILL SIMPLY REPLACE YOU.
AFTER ALL, WHEN LORD NADIL AWAKENS, HE WILL ONLY NEED CESIA, SHYRENDORA AND ME. THE REST OF YOU ARE EXPENDABLE.

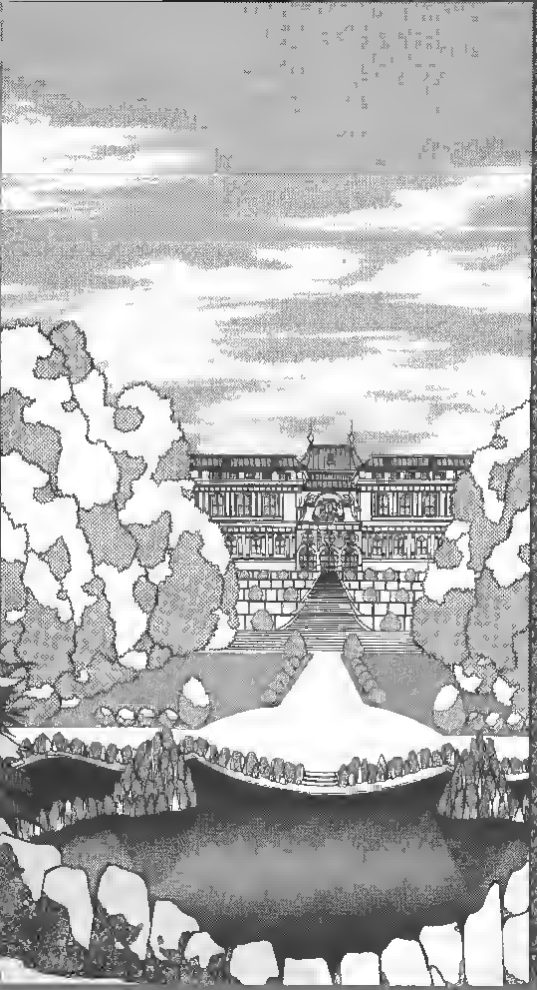
NO WAY.
WE'RE GOING STRAIGHT HOME!
IN THE STREET.
I'LL MAKE A FORTUNE AT THE PAWN SHOP!


WHAT?!
NICE.
WHERE DID YOU FIND IT, THATZ?
TELL US.

I WAS GONNA TAKE OUT SOME DEMONS BEFORE I GOT HOME.
UH... THAT COULD PROVE DIFFICULT.
So that was your plan!
RATH!!
SOO
HERE WE GO AGAIN.
IF RATH HAD A PASSION FOR TREASURE AND NOT DEMON HUNTING, HE WOULD BE MUCH MORE PLEASANT.
SHUT UP.
I AGREE.
I COULD BE HUNTING DEMONS NOW IF HIS MAJESTY WASN'T WITH US.
EASY, RUNE! DOWN, BOY!!
grrrrrr!

RUWALK!
THE NEW FORTUNE-TELLER WAS CORRECT.
HE MUST'VE FOUND THE BOYS EASILY, THEN.
SO SOON?
THE DRAGON LORD ...
IS BACK!

I KNEW IT! ANOTHER EXCUSE TO HUNT DEMONS.
I CAN PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST VICIOUS HORDES OF MONSTERS THAT MIGHT TRY TO ...
WHAT GOOD WOULD YOU BE?
RATH ...
HEY, THATZ! I'LL GO WITH YOU TO SELL THAT THING.
REALLY? THEN WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO?
YOU'RE SO PARANOID, RUNE.
Oh, come on.
Put the sword down, Rune.
DON'T HIT ME!
TO HUNT DEMO--
ACK!



WHAT?!
WHAT AN ABSURD IDEA?!
RUWALK, DID YOU HELP THE LORD SNEAK OUT?
I'LL FIND HIM, ALFEEGI.
RIGHT.
WHERE'S KAI-STERN? WE CAN'T BEGIN WITHOUT HIM.
Loosen up, will ya?
IF YOU TWO ARE FINISHED,
THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE.
PLEASE HURRY.

I SAW THAT COMING.
THEN DON'T MAKE ME DO IT AGAIN.
such language
Pat Pat
I should've seen that coming!
AS YOU WISH.
BONK!
WE GONNA HAFTA PRESENT OUR REPORTS ...
IN FRONT OF THE COUNCIL?
THOSE ARE THE RULES.
gasp!

WE MADE IT.
WE'RE HOME.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
THAT'S NOT FUNNY, THATZ!
WE'RE ACTUALLY STILL IN THE MISTY VALLEY.
WAKE UP.
WELL EXCUSE ME!
AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT! YOU AND YOUR STUPID DETOURS!
SO ...
IT TOOK ... SO LONG ...

LONG TIME NO SEE.
!
KAI-STERN!!
Is that Rath's voice?
I'VE SEARCHED EVERY-WHERE!
WHERE DID KAI-STERN DISAPPEAR TO?
WHAT IS IT?
FIRE?
BEHIND YOU!
BEHIND YOU!
WHAT?
RATH?
KAI-STERN AND CREWGER ARE BACK AT THE CASTLE?!

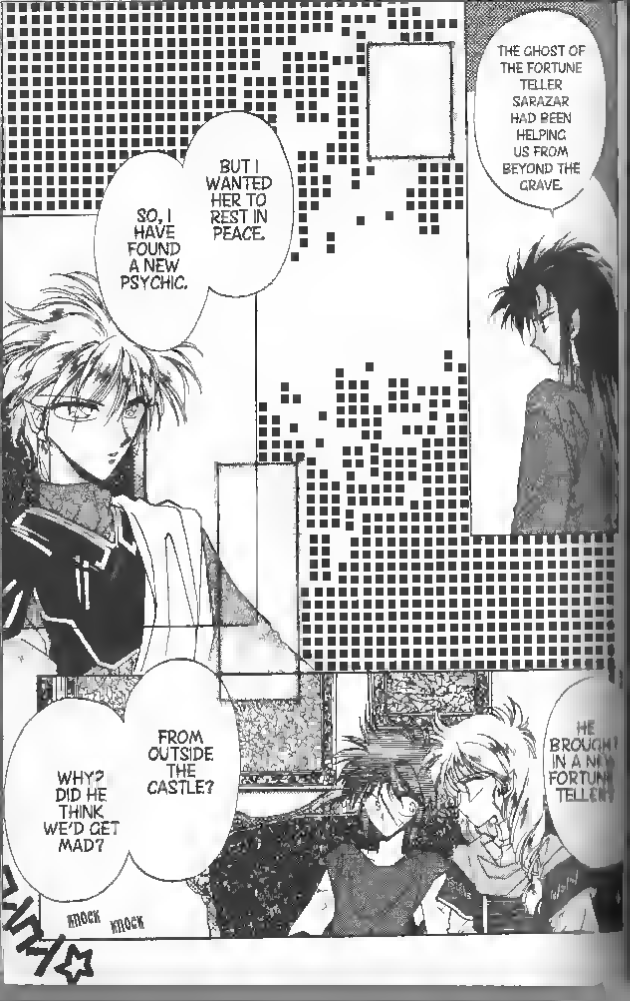
HE THOUGHT YOU'D DO SOME-THING STUPID. I DON'T BLAME HIM.
Who me?
HE'S BEEN MISERABLE SINCE YOU LEFT.
HE'S NOT SICK, IS HE?
YOU TOOK GOOD CARE OF HIM, RIGHT?
CREW-GER!

WELCOME BACK, RATH. KILL A LOT OF DEMONS?
OF COURSE! OH, YOU'RE THE BEST, KAI-STERN.
What the--?
UH... GUYS?
YOU KNOW, HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE HE WAS LITTLE.
HEY, RUWALK.
KAI-STERN! DON'T ENCOURAGE HIM!
Oh, it's Ruwalk.
He adores Kai-stern.
YEAH. HE DID.
DID RATH GROW UP AT THE CASTLE?
CREWGER MISSED YOU.
RATH.

I'VE ONLY MET KAI-STERN A FEW TIMES.
HE'S USUALLY OUT ON ASSIGN-MENT.
WEL-COME BACK, LYKOU-LEON.
THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG.
I FOUND THEM WITH NARY A STRUGGLE.
SO, DO YOU AGREE THAT WE SHOULD KEEP THE GIRL HERE?
THAT SHOULD BE FINE.
YOU HAVE NO OBJECT-IONS, THEN?
WE TRUST YOUR MAJESTY'S INSTINCTS.
YET YOU WON'T LET ME LEAVE THE CASTLE.
WELL, UM... ER...
CESIA SHOULD BE FINE IN CERNOZURA'S ... I MEAN, IN ALFEEGI'S CARE.
I'M MORE WOR-RIED ABOUT THE BOYS.
THEY KNOW CESIA.
AS DO I...

ARE YOU SURE, MY LORD?
THEY NEED TO BE ALONE.
NOW ABOUT NADIL'S HEAD...
YES, MY LORD!
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO MEET SOMEONE.
I HOPE YOU WILL NOT BE ANGRY.
?
RUNE, THAT'S LET'S ALLOW THEM SOME TIME.
WE WILL SEE YOU LATER, RATH.
CREW-GER, BOY!
DID KAI-STERN TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU?

SO, IT'S HERE!!
THE LORD HAD A FORTUNE-TELLER BRING IT HERE.
HE MUST'VE BEEN CONCERNED ...
IT'S ABOUT NADIL'S HEAD.
YES.
I'D BE MAD, TOO.
...
ABOUT YOU OBTAINING NADIL'S HEAD.
I AM READYING MYSELF TO LEAVE AGAIN.
I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO REUNITE YOU AND CREWGER FIRST.
ALREADY? BUT I HAVE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
I GUESS I CAN LEAVE TOMORROW.
WHAT DO YOU WISH TO ASK?
I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!
NOT FROM YOU!


THE GHOST OF THE FORTUNE TELLER SARAZAR HAD BEEN HELPING US FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE.
BUT I WANTED HER TO REST IN PEACE.
SO, I HAVE FOUND A NEW PSYCHIC.
HE BROUGHT IN A NEW FORTUNE TELLER?
FROM OUTSIDE THE CASTLE?
WHY? DID HE THINK WE'D GET MAD?
KNOCK KNOCK

I'M SORRY.
BUT RATH...
...ABOUT THE FORTUNE-TELLER...
SHE'S THE ONE WHO BROUGHT NADIL'S HEAD TO THE CASTLE.
BIERREZ!
THE LORD HAS DECIDED TO LET HER STAY.

smile
swish
HELLO, YOUR MAJESTY.
?

WH...
WHAT?
BUT THAT'S...!!
CESIA?
IS IT...

MEET OUR NEW FORTUNE-TELLER.
NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DRAGON KNIGHTS.

THE DRAGON CASTLE...
MUST HAVE A VERY SPECIAL FORTUNE-TELLER.
SARAZAR'S GHOST...
ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO LEAD THE ARMY.
CESIA...
WELL, THE LORD LIKES HER. AND THE QUEEN ADORES HER.
SO, SHE'S BEEN HIRED.
CAN WE TRUST HER?
SHE HAS THE SKILLS.
AFTER ALL, SHE LEARNED MAGIC FROM A WITCH.

WE FOUND HER IN CHANTEL.
SHE PASSED ALL OF OUR TESTS WITH FLYING COLORS.
OH.
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
YOU KNOW HER?
SHE FOUND YOU GUYS.
AS IF THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVE FEAT, WITH THE NOISE YOU MAKE...
THAT'S RIGHT.
SHE KNEW WE WERE AT THE MIRROR OF PURE BEAUTY?

OFFICER CERNO-ZURA,
WHERE SHOULD WE PUT THESE CLOTHES?
PREPARE SOME BATHS.
THE KNIGHTS WILL NEED TO BATHE.
crash
OH, MA-DAM!
IT'S MR. RATH!
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO HIS HIGH-NESS?
WHAT IS IT?
Aieeee!
!

LEMME BORROW YOUR SWORD.
I BROKE MINE.
AGAIN? WELL, OKAY, BUT GO EASY ON IT.
A WITCH!
C'MON, FIRE!

RATH.

ARE YOU...
A YŌKAI?

RATH!
HEY!!
LOWER THE STEEL!!
crash
!

HEY!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
CONTROL YOURSELF! HIS MAJESTY IS HERE!
ching

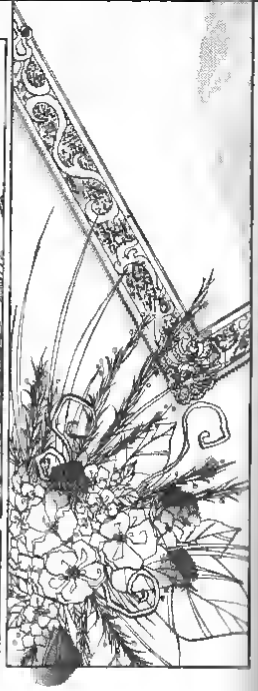
PLUS, THERE ARE STRONGER DEMONS TO HUNT.
HE'D LOCK ME UP.
UH...
RATH?
SINCE NADIL'S HEAD IS SAFELY RECOVERED,
I'M GONNA...
WHAT?!
NO.
I WOULDN'T DO THAT.
NOT IN FRONT OF HIS MAJESTY!
GULP

.....
YOUR HONESTY IS ADMIRABLE.
WHAT NOW?
ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME?
YES.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
CESIA.
PLEASE STAY. WE WILL NEED YOU LATER.
YES, SIRE.
SEE YOU LATER.
I'M ALIVE.

Where'd he get a sword?
RATH!
YOU ARE TOO MUCH!
HOW'D YA KNOW?
YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?!
EXCUSE ME, SIRE.
THE KNIGHTS... CLOTHES ARE READY.
BAD NEWS, RATH.
ER... THATZ?
hmm?
I KNOW YOU HATE THAT.
WE HAVE TO GET ALL DRESSED UP NOW.
FINE. LET'S GO.

RATH CHANGED MY MIND.
KAI-STERN! I THOUGHT YOU'D LEFT.



UM... OKAY.
I'LL LEAVE TOMORROW.

I GUESS THAT MEANS ALL THE DRAGON OFFICERS ARE HERE.

OH...
I WISH ZOMA WERE HERE.
THESE PEOPLE ...
THEY'RE SO WARM AND INVITING.
I LEFT LORD NADIL'S ARMY AND JOINED THE DRAGON LORD.
BUT I CAN'T GO BACK.

I FEEL SO FREE HERE.
AND I'M FINALLY RID OF SHYDEMAN AND SHYRENDORA!
THEY CAN'T FOLLOW ME HERE!

LET US CELEBRATE THE DRAGON KNIGHTS RETURN!

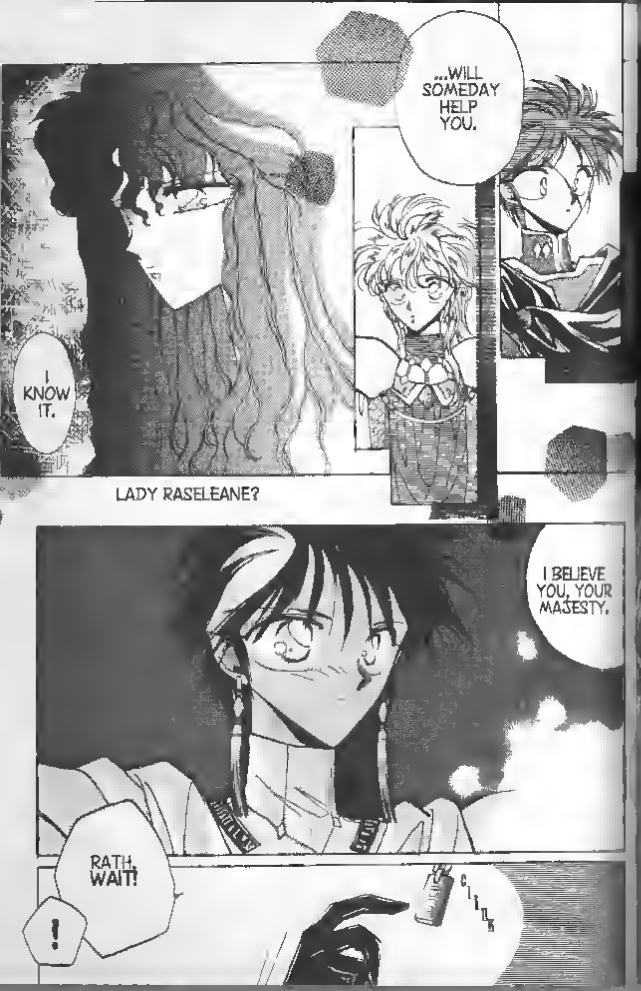
THIS STRANGE FEELING ...
SOME-THING EVIL IS COMING THIS WAY.
IT REMINDS ME OF NADIL..
GIGK
ハーカーン!
OH! IT'S JUST YOU GUYS!
AAAAHH!

MY LORD, WE HAVE SOME-THING FOR THE QUEEN.
HER DRAGON EYES?
UN-FORTUN-ATELY, SHE IS NOT FEELING WELL.
SHE'S INSIDE RESTING.
MAY WE SEE HER?
OF COURSE YOU MAY. ASK CERNO-ZURA TO TAKE YOU.

I WANT RUNE AND THATZ...
TO HAVE THESE.
...THANK YOU FOR BRINGING BACK MY DRAGON EYES.
ALSO...
What about me?
BUT...
YOUR HIGH-NESS!!

I'M SORRY.
NO.
UH...
MY LADY?
Please don't cry!
IS SOMETHING WRONG, YOUR HIGHNESS?
YOU DEFEATED NADIL. CONGRAT-ULATIONS.
IT IS GOOD TO HAVE THE THREE OF YOU BACK.

THIS IS FOR YOU.
AND RATH ...
IT IS THE SEAL NADIL USED TO IMPRISON ME.
THE QUEEN WANTS TO SEE YOU.
YES, CERNO-ZURA?
CESIA!


...WILL SOMEDAY HELP YOU.
I KNOW IT.
LADY RASELEANE?
I BELIEVE YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.
RATH, WAIT!
!
CLINK

THIS AMULET...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT DOES?
IT CLOSES A PERSON'S EYES, EARS, AND MIND,
BLOCKING THEIR SENSES, THEIR ABILITY TO PERCEIVE.
YET THIS SEAL...

CESIA!!
BECAUSE SHE'S YOKAI.
THE AMULET WON'T HARM CESIA,
COME IN, CESIA.

UNTIL YOU NEED IT, LET'S LEAVE IT...
KNOCK KNOCK
CLICK
UH...
THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT'S DANGEROUS AND CAN OVERWHELM YOU EASILY.
DON'T TOUCH IT.
If I can't touch...
...IN HER HANDS.

IF SHE REALLY IS A YOKAI...
WHY DOES SHE FEEL NO PAIN ...
INSIDE THE CASTLE?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WHAT?!
DAMN! AND I THOUGHT I FIGURED HER OUT!
He's protecting her?
BEHAVE YOURSELF.
Huh?
Didn't you know?
THAT'S EASY ENOUGH.
IT'S CUZ THE LORD'S MAGIC PROTECTS HER.
REALLY?

WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.
WHO CARES?
YOU MEAN ABOUT CESIA?
They cut off so much hair!
LORD LYKOULEON AND QUEEN RASELEANE...
WHY ARE THEY ACTING SO STRANGE?
BUT CESIA IS A LIAR.
SHE'S JUST LIKE ME.
HE'S NEVER WRONG.
LOOK, THE LORD WANTS HER HERE.
GEE, THAT'S COMFORTING.
I'm Jealous.
Plus, he asked us not to be angry
The operative word is want.

DID THEY?
I'M SURE THEY LEFT SOME FOR YOU.
あろあろ
That can't be true!
THERE ISN'T ANY MORE FOOD?
UNLIKE SOME PEOPLE,
WE DO HAVE MANNERS.
YOU SOUND LIKE KAI-STERN ...
TETHEUS?
HON
.....
RATH,
YOU LEFT CREWGER WITH KAI-STERN, RIGHT?
WITH RED OFFICER GONE,
I'M IN CHARGE OF SECURITY, SO BEHAVE.
RIGHT RATH ?
WHAT IF YOU PUT THE LORD IN DANGER?
UH... OH! SHOOT.
UM... RIGHT
TETHEUS!
IS THE PARTY OVER ALREADY?
Right...

THE LORD'S MAGIC WILL PROTECT THE CASTLE.
RED OFFICER WILL FINISH THE SHIELD.
IT LIES BEHIND FIVE MASSIVE DOORS EACH SEALED BY A DRAGON OFFICER SPELL.
ONLY ALFEEGI AND THE LORD HAVE KEYS.
AND ...
ONLY MEMEBRS OF THE DRAGON TRIBE CAN REACH NADIL'S HEAD..
THAT'D BE FUNNY.
SOMEONE SHOULD MAKE HIM LAUGH.
WOW.
TETHEUS IS SO SERIOUS.
Try cozing him
I BET HE'S LOOKING FOR YOU.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD CHECK ON HIM.
CREWGER GUARDS IT FROM THE OUTSIDE...

HMM...
G'MORNING, RUWALK. ALFEEG!
MORNING.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, RATH?
I'M GONNA GO AFTER HIM!
Whimper
Geez, chill out, guys.
I'M BORED I WANNA HUNT DEMONS
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH RATH?
WHERE'S KAI-STERN?
OH.
HE LEFT ALREADY.
WITHOUT FORMALLY ASKING FOR LEAVE?
Pant
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?

却下ーっ!!!
NO WAY!!!
A REALLY STRONG DEMON TO FIGHT!
OH, OKAY. FINE.
JUST GIMME A NEW SWORD AND I PROMISE I'LL BEHAVE.
UH...
THAT CAN BE ARRANGED.
...
SO YOU DON'T MIND IF I LEAVE TO GO FIND ONE, THEN?
You trying to blackmail us?!
MY MASTER HAS NO BRAINS
REALLY?
THEN, DO I GET A REWARD FOR NOT GOING OUT?
PLEASE. WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
RATH, YOU MUST STAY HERE.
HE'S BEGGING YOU, RATH.
WHAT DO YOU WANT, RATH?
HMM. WHAT D'YA THINK?
WELL
IT'S POSSIBLE ...

IT'S BEEN AWHILE...
SINCE THE TWO OF YOU HAVE BEEN THERE.
LET'S PICK SOME FLOWERS AND GO VISIT THE GRAVE.
CREWGER. FIRE.

UH...
OKAY.
It gotta be in writing? Sheesh!
BUT FIRST YOU MUST SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST.
Geez, you're strict.

....?
A FLOWER...
KNOCK KNOCK
ZOMA?
ZOMA?

ME TOO.
IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG.

WHERE AM I?
THERE ARE SO MANY PATHS...
cesid's lost.
OH, DEAR ...
Zann?
THE CASTLE GROUNDS ARE SO BIG...
?
DID YOU PICK ONE, TOO, CREWCER?
BUT THAT'S OKAY.
YOU PICKED A WEIRD FLOWER, FIRE.

WHERE DID HE GO?
HE'S OUT?
hm.

SNAP
!!
I'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE HE SEES ME.
I WONDER IF ONE OF THE DRAGON TRIBE IS BURIED THERE?
That would be bad.
rustle
WIND!
!
I'M SORRY ...
... I HAD TO LEAVE YOU GUYS HERE.
.....
A GRAVE?
WELL, WE GOT THE FLOWERS.
I DON'T QUITE FEEL RIGHT ABOUT THIS...
IN FACT, I FEEL KINDA DUMB.
WHAT AM I DOING?

!
SOMEONE WAS WATCHING ME?!
DID HE SEE?!

CESIA!
AH!
ZOMA?!

HEY, YOU'RE TALKING TO RUNE, NOT SOME SUBJECT YOU NEED TO IMPRESS!
OF COURSE NOT! WE FAITHFUL DRAGON FIGHTERS PROTECTED THIS...
DID ANY YOKAI TRY TO ATTACK THE CASTLE?
WAS IT PEACEFUL HERE ... WHILE WE WERE GONE?
OF COURSE NOT.

WHAT THE HELL?
SORRY!
HOW DARE YOU SUGGEST OTHER-WISE!
AND YOU KNOW IT'S THE DRAGON LORD'S SPELL THAT PROTECTS THE CASTLE FROM YOKAI.
Was that true?

HE'S NOT IN HIS ROOM.
NO, WE HAVEN'T.
HAVE YOU SEEN RATH?

DO YOU MIND?
HEY. ONE QUICK QUES-TION.
WOULD-NOT PUT IT PAST HIM.
DO YOU?
YOU DON'T THINK HE WENT HUNTING FOR DEMONS AGAIN...
Oh no
It is Rath

...
SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG.
UGGH!
ZOMA ?!
WHAT HAP-PENED?!
OW ...

CESIA!
ZOMA, WAIT!
OKAY.
COME ON OUT.

WRONG, CESIA.
THERE IS ONE YOKAI WHO CAN ENTERS THESE GROUNDS.
AH!
YOKAI CAN'T COME HERE. WE'RE SAFE.
OH ... DON'T WORRY.
WHO ARE?
THEY'RE COMING TO GET YOU!
WHAT?
YOU HAVE TO HIDE, CESIA!
NO! WE DON'T HAVE TIME!
LET ME TAKE A LOOK.
WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

NO. HE'S NOT HUMAN. AND HE'S NOT AN ELF.
IMPOSSIBLE...
A YOKAI?
WE HAVE AN INTRUDER.
A MAN?

HEY!
WHERE'S OFFICER TETHEUS?
CALL HIM. QUICK!
SOME-THING'S WRONG.
HUH?
WHAT'S THAT?
MY LORD!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

BIERREZ ... H-HOW?

NOT EVEN NADIL'S OWN OFFICERS CAN ENTER, AND YET...
BIERREZ!?
...HERE I AM.

ARE YOU SURPRISED, CESIA?
I'M NOT SUPPOSED BE ABLE TO COME HERE.
B-B-B...

WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW?!
NOT MUCH, EXCEPT THAT...
YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR APPEARANCE...
DID YOU THINK YOU WERE BEING SO SNEAKY I WOULDN'T FIGURE IT OUT?
PATHETIC.
HOW'D YA KNOW CESIA WAS HERE?
AND ZOMA HERE'S BEEN SPYING ON NADIL'S ARMY.
WHY HIM?
HOW'D A WEED LIKE YOU GAIN ACCESS TO THE CASTLE GROUNDS?
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
ISN'T HE YOKAI, TOO?
!!!
I WAS INFECTED WITH THE DRAGON LORD'S BLOOD WHEN I TOUCHED ILLUSER'S DEAD BODY.
UNDERSTAND?
THAT CAN'T BE!
NO, I SUPPOSE A SIMPLETON LIKE YOU...
CAN'T UNDERSTAND.
ILLUSER?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU BAS-TARD!!
YOU MUST RETURN WITH ME.
AGREED?
AM I?
ZOMA GOT IN MY WAY. THAT IS ALL.
I DON'T CARE IF HE'S A SPY. AND I WON'T EVEN TELL NADIL'S MEN.
YOU SAVAGE BEAST!
AND YOU BEAT HIM FOR IT?
.....!!
BUT ONLY UNDER ONE CONDITION ...

LISTEN, WE MUST KEEP THIS FROM RATH!
UH, I THINK IT'S TOO LATE.
I WON'T EVEN ASK WHY YOU'RE HERE, CAVORTING WITH THE ENEMY,
THEY ARE YOUR ENEMY. REMEMBER?
YOU ARE COMING WITH ME!
NO!
OVER MY DEAD BODY!
CHANGING THE SUBJECT
WAIT! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!
PLEASE!!!
NO WAY, FIRE. FORGET IT.
WHAT?!! A YOKAI?!
HMM...
WE DON'T KNOW.
HOW DID HE GET IN?

AHH...
!

RATH...
!
HMM...
SO YOU'RE THE DEMON, EH?
WHAT IS THAT? THAT THING ON YOUR NECK?
HEY! THAT HURT!
YOU CAN'T TOUCH IT?
ZOMG CAN WHICH MEANS ...
?
... YOU'RE MY ENEMY!

RATH?
WHAT NOW?
SHOULD WE STEP IN?
NO WAY.
RATH WON'T LIKE THAT.
Only if he needs us.
So...
IF YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ZOMA AND ME,
SURELY YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM, TOO!
He's seen him many times.
すぇっ
HOW ODD.
YES, HE CERTAINLY IS.
I MEANT YOU, SIR.
You said you didn't want him to fight demons.
.....
YOU'D BETTER LEAVE,
WHILE YOU STILL HAVE YOUR LIFE!
GET THE HELL OUT!
とっ

HE'S SO CUTE --
LIKE HE'S JUST FOUND A TREASURE...
I WAS AFRAID I'D NEVER GET TO SLAUGHTER ANY DEMONS HERE.
I'M GLAD YOU SHOWED UP.
MUST BE MY LUCKY DAY.
BUT HE'S STILL THE SAME RATH.
phew
HMM..
YOU LOOK FAMILIAR -

AND I'LL BE WAITING.

I'LL BE BACK, CESIA.

LEAVE WHILE YOU STILL HAVE YOUR LIFE.

WOOsh

THAT'S RIGHT! RUN WHILE YOU CAN!

flash!
IF YOU ASK ME,
IT'S YOUR OWN LIFE YOU SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT.

YOU ARE TOO KIND.
IT'LL PROTECT YOU FROM OTHER DEMONS, TOO.
LIKE THAT YOKAI GUY.
HEY KID.
ARE YOU ZOMA, THEN?
.....
LOSE IT, AND YOU'LL BECOME YOKAI AGAIN.
AND THEN I WON'T BE THIS POLITE.
I Just wanna kill that guy.
I'M NOT GONNA KILL YA.
BESIDES, I CAN'T NOW.
LOOK.
IF YOU MUST KILL SOME-ONE,
KILL ME, NOT ZOMA.
He's hungry.
WHO'S THAT BOY WITH THE BIRD.
At least he's safe
HE SURE IS FICKLE.
THIS AMU-LET?
SO LONG AS YOU WEAR THE LIGHT DRAGON AMULET ...
YOU ARE NOT A DEMON.

THEIR FIRST MEETING
(AFTER THATZ ARRIVED)
OFFICER RUWALK
WE'RE COOKIES!

UH...
BIERREZ.
SO WHO WAS THAT FREAKY YOKAI, ANYWAY?
BIERREZ, EH?
GEEZ.
I WASN'T GONNA HURT HIM.
I was gonna help him up.
WHERE'S THATZ?
Let me guess.
Let's go
SLEEPING.

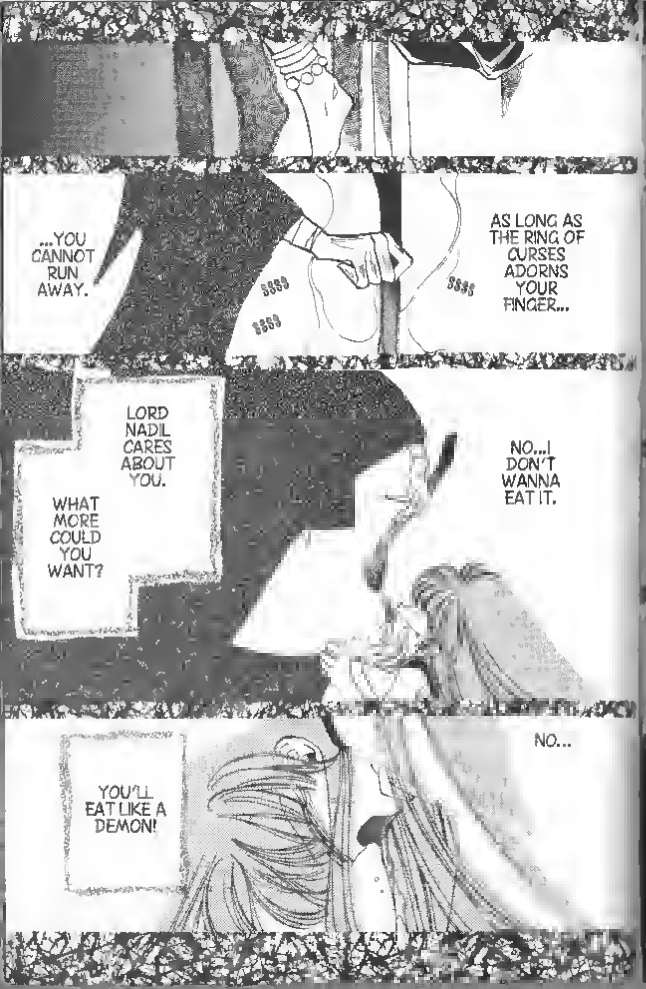
AHH
AHH...
AHH...

!!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT!

YOUR GIRL STILL WON'T EAT HUMAN FLESH.

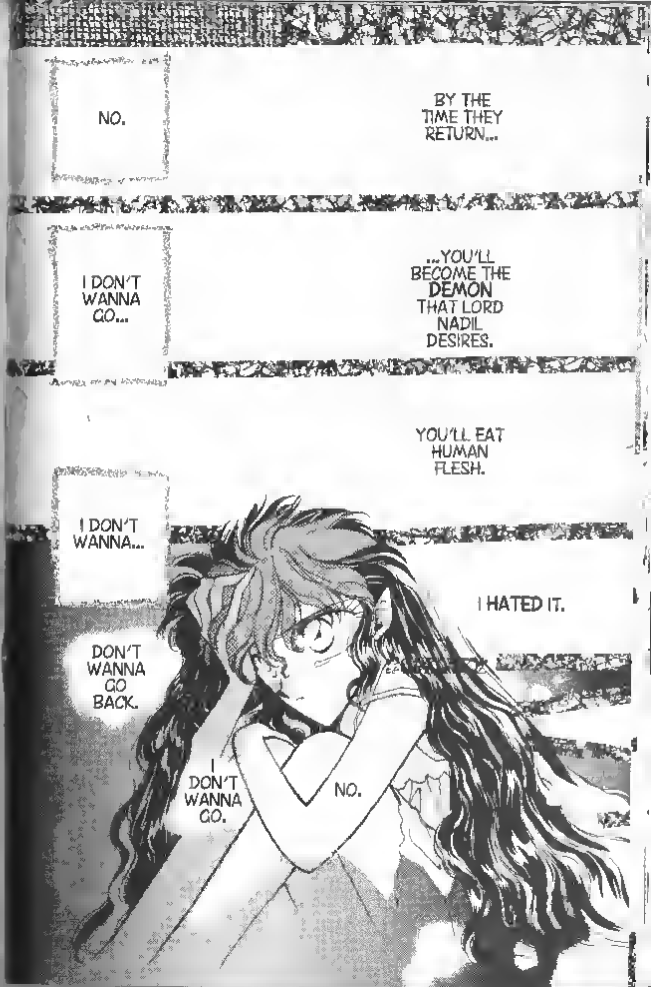
HE WANTS THE POWER SHE'LL POSSESS AS A DEMON.
LISTEN, WITCH. LORD NADIL IS NOT HAPPY.

AHHH...
AHHHH...


...YOU CANNOT RUN AWAY.
AS LONG AS THE RING OF CURSES ADORNS YOUR FINGER...
LORD NADIL CARES ABOUT YOU.
WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT?
NO...I DON'T WANNA EAT IT.
YOU'LL EAT LIKE A DEMON!
NO...

YANK
YOUR SPELL IS WEAK. SHE'S RETURNING TO HER OLD FORM.
LOOK AT HER HAIR!
EAT IT, CESIA!
NOW.

I HATED IT SO MUCH ...
... BUT THEY FORCED ME.
I'D ALMOST FORGOT-TEN ABOUT ALL THAT.
AFTER THE WITCH DIED, I COULDN'T REMOVE THE RING ... UNTIL I CAME HERE AND THE QUEEN REMOVED IT FOR ME.
I HATED IT.
NO.
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK.
I'M SCARED ...
I CAN'T STOP CRYING. I DON'T WANNA GO BACK.


NO.
BY THE TIME THEY RETURN...
I DON'T WANNA GO...
...YOU'LL BECOME THE DEMON THAT LORD NADIL DESIRES.
YOU'LL EAT HUMAN FLESH.
I DON'T WANNA...
I HATED IT.
DON'T WANNA GO BACK.
I DON'T WANNA GO.
NO.

BUT HE SAID THAT WITH-OUT IT, HE'D KILL ME.
I YES.
.....
Oh, that Rath ...
AFTER SEEING THE AMULET,
RATH DID NOT TREAT YOU LIKE A DEMON, RIGHT?
SO, VERY FEW HAVE THE POWER TO TOUCH IT?
YES. I AM ONE OF THE FEW WHO CAN.
THE LIGHT DRAGON AMULET IS MADE OF THE LORD'S BLOOD.

I CAN'T EAT IT AGAIN.
BUT I TASTED IT IN MY DREAM ...
I'VE FORGOT-TEN WHAT HUMAN FLESH TASTES LIKE.

I LIKE DRESSING PEOPLE UP. IT'S LIKE PLAYING WITH A LIVING DOLL!
ONE OF MY OLD DRESSES. IT WILL LOOK EXQUISITE ON YOU.
WHAT WILL DO?
.....
I'm like a doll?!
I AGREE.
BUT I'M JUST A FORTUNE-TELLER!
ruined my last dress!
WHAT DO THEY THINK I AM?
These shoes are just darling!
Ooh! This one's nice.
きらきら
GOOD MORNING!

SEE?
YOU HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO KEEP TRACK OF NOW.
NADIL'S SEAL IS SAFE. I KEEP IT INSIDE MY CRYSTAL BALL.
WILL THIS DO, YOUR HIGHNESS?
YES. THANK YOU, CERNO-ZURA.

AARRGH
CRASH
A DEMON GOT INTO THE CASTLE TODAY.

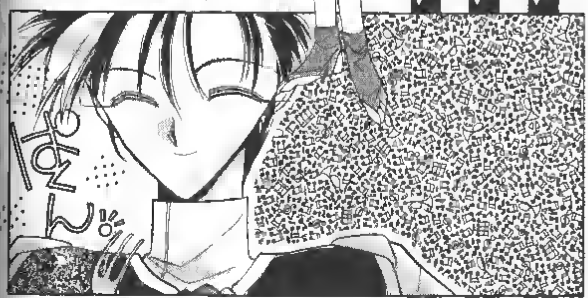
WHY'S RATH SO HAPPY?
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE GUESS!
GULP

ARGH!
YOU JUST WASTED FOOD.
DID A STUPID DEMON COME HERE JUST TO MAKE HIM HAPPY?!

AS IF YOU DID ANYTHING TO DESERVE IT!

THAT WAS A RELAXING SLEEP.
GREAT!
THATZ, IT'S ALMOST DINNER TIME!

Seeing mokes me hungry
HEH, HEH.
LET'S NOT FIGHT. LET'S GO EAT!
You slept through a whole manga chapter!
HA!


ZZZ

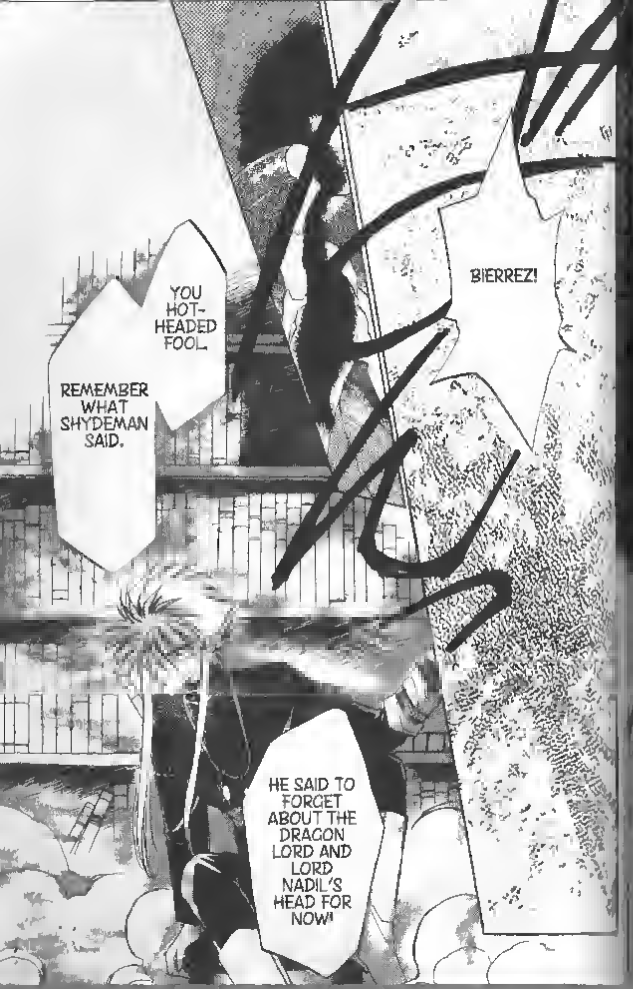
I'M GLAD I DIDN'T BECOME A YOKAI!
THIS IS SO EXCITING!
He's singing?
Rath's scary.
YOU MEAN THE THOUGHT OF FIGHTING DEMONS?
HE'S SING-ING?
BIERREZ, EH?

HIS NAME IS BIERREZ.
HE'S A YOKAI.
GREAT.
WHATEVER.
Put down the knife.

HMM.
TETHEUS WILL NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY IF HE RETURNS.
I THINK I'LL KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON CESIA.
OH YEAH, RIGHT.

ASK CESIA. SHE KNOWS HIM.
HOW'D HE GET IN?
munch munch
chirk chirk

EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WITH THE ABILITY TO ENTER THE CASTLE...
YOU CANNOT ACT RASHLY.
SHOOT!
I MUST SPEAK TO YOU.
DAMN!
JILGE DIDN'T LEAVE ANYTHING!
.....
.....
SOS
PIERREZ!


BIERREZ!
YOU HOT-HEADED FOOL.
REMEMBER WHAT SHYDEMAN SAID.
HE SAID TO FORGET ABOUT THE DRAGON LORD AND LORD NADIL'S HEAD FOR NOW!

YOU DON'T WANT ME TO KILL THE DRAGON LORD AND RECLAIM NADIL'S HEAD?
YOU'RE NOT INVINCI-BLE...
COWARD.
YOU JUST WANT THE DRAGON LORD'S BLOOD FOR YOURSELF. BE GONE!
HEY!!
I TOLD YOU...
...TO LEAVE!!

THAT YOKAI MUST HAVE TAKEN MY BLOOD FROM ILLUSER'S BODY.
WHAT IS THE YOKAI'S NAME?
I DON'T KNOW.
HOW-EVER ...
DO YOU THINK RATH KNOWS?
IT MIGHT BE HARD TO GET IT OUT OF HIM.
phew
UNDEED.

AND THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO THE BUILDINGS.
THAT CON-CLUDES MY REPORT.
OUR PRIORITY IS TO GET CESIA BACK!

YES. ABOUT THAT...
KNOCK KNOCK
ENTER.
CESIA!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I NEED A FAVOR.
YOUR MAJESTY.
I'LL LET YOU PICK THE SWORD THEN, ALFEEQI.
A SWORD WON'T HELP AT ALL.
DID YOU PROMISE RATH A NEW SWORD?
I SHOULDN'T HAVE.
I SHOULD'VE PROMISED HIM THE DEMON.
Who could've known?
WHAT ABOUT THE FORTUNE-TELLER CESIA?
MY LORD?
WHAT A HEADACHE.
I know
So it's your job.
YOU'RE THE ONE WITH A KEY.

I WILL TELL YOU ALL I KNOW ABOUT NADIL, AND NADIL'S ARMY.
BUT PLEASE ...
LET ME STAY HERE.
I BEG YOU.
DON'T KICK ME OUT.

CESIA!
DON'T!
!

WHAT?

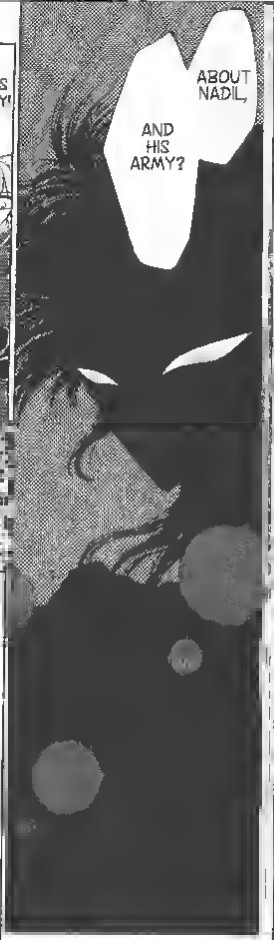
YOU MUST NOT TELL ME.
NOT YET.
KEEP IT TO YOURSELF FOR NOW.

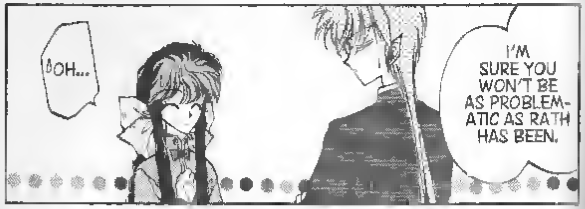
IF YOU SPEAK NOW, YOU WILL BE WEAKENED.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

WAIT A MINUTE.
SOME-THING'S WRONG WITH HER.

TELL US QUICKLY!
STOP, ALFEEGI.

AND THE LORD KNOWS IT.
UGHH!


ABOUT NADIL,
AND HIS ARMY?


OH...
I'M SURE YOU WON'T BE AS PROBLEMATIC AS RATH HAS BEEN.

YOU MEAN, AFTER HE GETS A SWORD?
RIGHT, ALFEEG!?

....
OH GREAT.
He asked me to tell you.
RATH WANTS THE BIG SWORD.

SO DON'T WORRY.
RATH WILL MAKE SURE THAT YOKAI DOESN'T KIDNAP YOU.

TRUST THE POWER OF THE LIGHT DRAGON AMULET.
BE YOURSELF, AND YOU WILL STAY FREE.

YOU NEED TO BE STRONG TO PERFORM YOUR MAGIC AND TO HAVE CLARITY IN YOUR FORTUNE TELLING.
YOU NEED TO STAY FREE.

BUT WHAT IF I TURN INTO A DEMON AND HARM YOU.

.....
ALFEEG!
...
DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL FIND THE DRAGON KNIGHTS ARE A BIT DEMONIC THEMSELVES.

blush
OH...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?

EVERYTHING IS JUST SO COMPLICATED.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
MY ACTING LIKE A DEMON MAKES RATH MAD?
ISN'T IT, ZOMA?
I'M THE ONE WHO CARES ABOUT YOU!
HEH...
UMM...
WHAT?
blush
I MEAN, IT'S GREAT THAT YOU HAVE NEW FRIENDS--
AND WHY DOES NO ONE LET HIM GO OUTSIDE THE CASTLE WALL?
THAT'S WHAT THE LORD SAID.
RATH MAY GET EXCITED IF YOU TURN INTO A DEMON AGAIN
.....

FOR NOW, I MUST WAIT.
I HAVE TO FOCUS ON MY NEW ENEMIES, THE YOKAI.

THANK YOU, ZOMA.
?

BUT NOT UNTIL BIERREZ IS TAKEN CARE OF.

OF COURSE!

ARE YA STILL GONNA LOOK FOR YOUR PARENTS?
Remember your wish?

EXCUSE ME, MY LORD.
IT'S ABOUT THE SWORD FOR RATH.
HUFF
HUFF
IT SEEMS RATH IS...
GONE?
I ONLY TOOK MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND.
HUFF
HUFF
MAYBE HE'S OFF PLAYING WITH CREWGER.
Oh, boy.
DID YOU TALK TO HIM ABOUT THE SWORD YET?
NO, MY LORD.
I was avoiding him.
MY LORD,
IF I MAY?
WHAT IS IT, ALFEEGI?

PLACE YOUR BETS.
350 FOR ME!
200!
OKAY,
ARE ALL BETS SET?
think
THEN HERE WE GO!
A 4 AND A 6!
I lost again!
I KNEW IT...
argh!
OOOOh
OFF-DUTY
gulp!
THAT THATZ ...
I WARNED HIM!
sigh

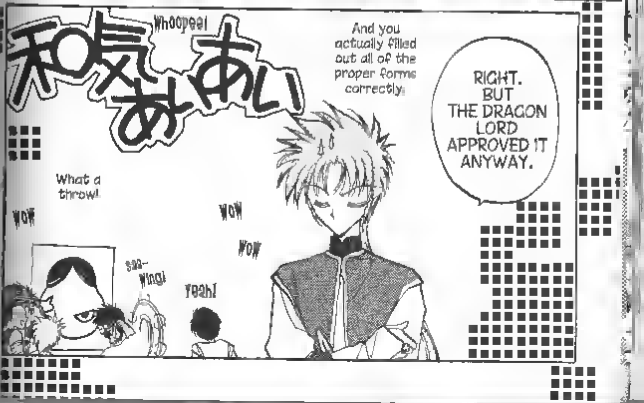
FIGHTERS' GUILD.
I SAW THATZ TAKE HIM IN THE DIRECTION OF ...
FIGHTERS' HOUSE?!
OH, NO!!
BUT THAT MEANS...
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
ABOUT RATH.
WHAT IS IT, RASELEANE?

WE HAFTA QUIT?
OF COURSE!
HOW'D YA GUESS?
FINE!
FIND ANOTHER WAY TO KEEP YOUR-SELF BUSY.
HOW 'BOUT THIS?
WHAT'S THAT?
Weird
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU, RATH.
FUN! LOOKS DEST-RUCTIVE.
Forget about gambling.
Forget about destruction
ANY BETTING INVOLVED?
COVER YOUR EYES.
IT'S PIN THE FACE ON HARD-ASS TETHEUS.
Can't gamble with this!
NOT TO WORRY! YOU CAN'T WIN OR LOSE.

1, 2, 3... YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M KICKING BUTT!
WOW
WOO HOO... I'M A LAWYER.
YOU'RE GETTING SCREWED ON THE SPINS.
Yes!
Aerobics
わたわた
EEK!
YIKES!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
THERE MIGHT BE... A LITTLE GAMBLING INVOLVED ...
.....
IT'S TWICE THE FUN!
He's good!
ISN'T THIS REAL MONEY?
WE'RE NOT GAMBLING!
THATZ?
IT'S THE GAME OF LIFE.
Wanna play?
I was just teaching them

COME BACK AFTER YOU GET THE SWORD, RATH.
WOW WOW
UM... WE'LL SEE.
Not good at games.
WITH FIRE. NAPPING.
WHERE'S CREWGER?
カチ
YEAH!
IS HE GONE?
のぞき

YOU GONNA GIVE ME A NEW SWORD?
He broke another one?!
ABOUT THE SWORD.
BECAUSE I BROKE MY PROMISE ABOUT DEMONS AND MISBEHAVED, HUH?
I WOULDN'T.
WHAT?


Whoopee!
And you actually filled out all of the proper forms correctly.
RIGHT. BUT THE DRAGON LORD APPROVED IT ANYWAY.
What a throw!
WOW
WOW
WOW
sag-
Wing!
Yeah!

WE HAVE AN EXPAN-SIVE ... COLLEC-TION OF SWORDS.
MINUS, OF COURSE, THE ONES YOU BROKE.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME DOWN HERE?
CLICK

TO GAMBLE YOUR SAVINGS AWAY!
LET THE GAMBLING BEGIN!
GAME OF LIFE
RIGHT ON, THATZ!

RATH'LL KEEP ALFEEGI BUSY FOR AGES.
WHICH ALLOWS US AN OPPORTU-NITY...
Now's our chance

CLANK
CLANK

I'M GIVING YOU A SWORD AS A SECURITY PRECAUTION.
SO DON'T BREAK IT.
Can I pick my own?
WHY'D YOU BRING ME WITH YOU THIS TIME?
IT WAS EASIER THIS WAY.
I NEED TO CHECK ON SOMETHING.
GO AHEAD.
CAN I OPEN THESE?
DON'T YOU EVER LISTEN?!
In case I break one
CAN I HAVE MORE THAN ONE?

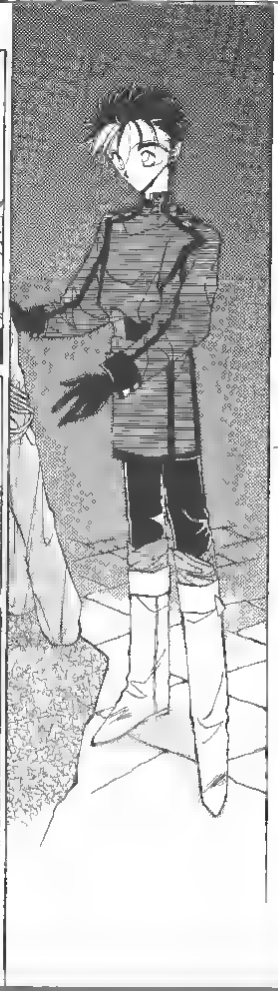
HOW BIG IS THIS PLACE?
THIS VAST UNDER-GROUND NETWORK OF TUNNELS CONNECTS ALL OF THE MAJOR BUILDINGS.
IT'S ALSO TOP-SECRET.
THAT'S WHY IT'S SO HARD TO FIND THE ENTRANCE.
ALFEEG! ...
WE KEEP THAT SEPARATE, IN CASE NADIL COMES BACK TO LIFE.
WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL ABOUT THESE THINGS.
SO... IS NADIL'S HEAD DOWN HERE?

W-WHOA!
HUH?
IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO...

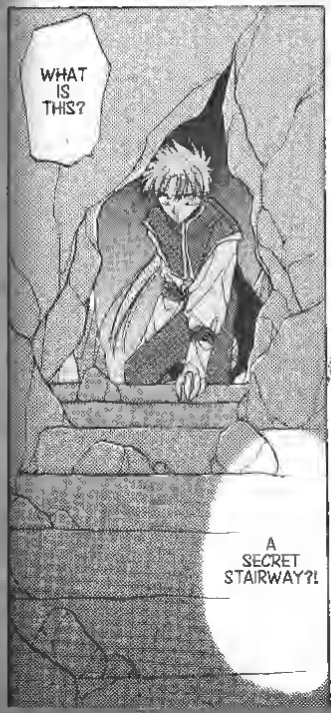
I WANT ...
THE BIG ONE.
NOT THAT ONE!
Didn't Ruwalk tell you?

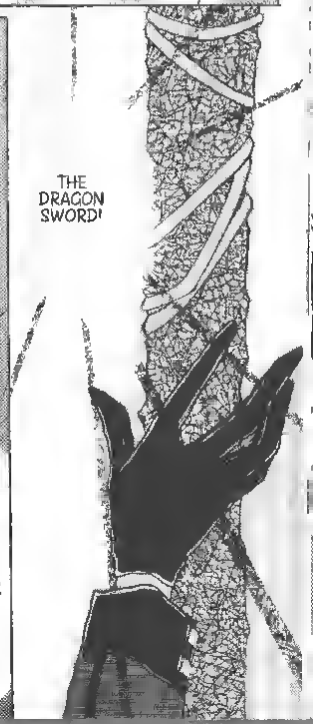
BUT IT WON'T BREAK.
It looks tough.
YOU CAN'T HAVE IT!

HMM.
I THINK IT'S IN THE BACK. I'LL LOOK.
HEY!
RATH! YOU CAN'T!
hop
hop
hop



I SAW THE DRAGON LORD WIELD THIS HUGE SWORD...


WHAT IS THIS?
A SECRET STAIRWAY?!


THE DRAGON SWORD!

RATH!
WHAT IS THAT?
UH...
NOTHING!
UMM...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I KNOW THAT! WHY IS IT IN YOUR HANDS?!
THE DRAGON SWORD.
WHY NOT?

I'VE NEVER SEEN THESE PASSAGE BEFORE. IT WAS HIDDEN BEHIND THAT WALL.
IT'S REALLY DARK DOWN THERE ...
WHAT'S DOWN THERE?
THIS IS A WAY OUT?
WH..IT IF...
GASP!
ALFEEG!!!
ETK!

...REQUIRES EXTRA POWER AND LIFE FORCE!
EVEN THE DRAGON LORD HAS ONLY USED IT ONCE!
I KNOW. I WAS THERE.
FIRE CAN'T GET STRONGER WITHOUT A SWORD THAT FITS!
ALFEEGI, GOT IT?
ARE YOU HIDING SOME-THING?
BESIDES, THAT SWORD...
THAT MEANS ...
I CAN JUST GO OUT HUNT-ING?
NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
HMM?
AND IT WON'T BE USEFUL TO YOU ON THE ROAD!
IT CAN'T ACCEPT FIRE,
YOUR DRAGON, FIRE, CAN'T EVEN ENTER IT!
THAT SWORD IS MEANT FOR SHIN, THE LORD'S DRAGON, LIGHT.
おいしょせ
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
Ouz I want this
SO ... FIRE CAN STAY BEHIND.
OH. RIGHT.
?
YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO FIRE!!

ALFEEGI,
WHAT'S THAT BEHIND YOU?
RATH!!
GREAT!
IT'S A DEAL!
YOU MEAN RIGHT NOW?
HA! HA! LET'S GO SEE HIS MAJESTY.

SO,
DID YOU LEARN ANYTHING ABOUT THE SECRET STAIRS?
THEY'RE NOT MENTIONED IN ANY OF THE BOOKS.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY COULD BE?
NO.
I HAVE NO CLUE.
I WONDER WHERE THEY LEAD.
IF IT'S JUST ANOTHER EXIT...
...THEN IT SHOULD BE SAFE.
Nadil!
BUT,
WHAT IF IT CONNECTS TO NADIL'S KINGDOM?
THE DRAGON SWORD, EH?
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE IT BETTER THAN I CAN.
RATH IS A REMARKABLE KNIGHT.
YOU'RE TOO EASY ON RATH, MY LORD.
THINK ABOUT THE FIRE DRAGON.
RATH'LL THINK OF SOME THING
FINE.

OH, SHUSH...
YOU WOULD'VE BEEN MY LAST CHOICE!
RUWALK! HE SENT YOU?
BUT...
WHO YOU GONNA ...?
I'LL SEND SOME-ONE ELSE WITH YOU.
I MUST SECURE THE CASTLE.

FINE. LET'S GO.
BUT WE MUST HURRY.
OH, COME ON!
HE'S A SPY FOR THE DRAGON LORD!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH RUWALK?
A LOT OF US ARE PREOCCUPIED. SCHEDULING IS HARD.
Don't you trust me?!

WE SHOULD GO CHECK IT OUT.
TONIGHT.
YOU GAME?

THAT'S NOT LIKELY,
BUT STILL, BE CARE-FUL...
IT WAS HIDDEN BEHIND A WALL, SO SOMEONE FELT IT WAS NECESSARY TO SEAL IT AT ONE TIME.
ISN'T THAT ODD?

WOW.
DESPITE RATH, THERE ARE LOTS OF SWORDS LEFT.
THIS YOUR FIRST TIME DOWN HERE?
WHERE'S THE HOLE?
NEAR THE LARGE DOOR
WHAT ABOUT THE LOCK?
WE'LL LOCK IT ONCE WE'RE INSIDE. BUT KEEP A KEY, JUST IN CASE.
OKAY.

SO HOW ABOUT ...
I GO FIRST, THEN.
CLOMP
CLOMP
SHOULD WE GO BACK AND GRAB SOME FOOD?
FOOD ...
UGH
GEESH!
WE'VE GONE REALLY FAR ALREADY.
HOW FAR DOWN DOES IT GO?
THERE'S NO END!
HUFF HUFF
HUFF HUFF

LOOK.
NO,
I DIDN'T. NOTHING'S SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.
YOU REALLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS?
LET'S CRAWL INSIDE AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT ... THIS WAS THE LOWEST LEVEL.
OKAY!

BUT THE DOOR WAS LOCKED!
How-
He could never say no to the Queen.
TETHEUS?!
TETHEUS OPENED IT FOR ME.
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO REPORT THIS TO THE LORD.
She can't hide things from him.
おおう
SHOULD I TAKE THESE MEALS BACK, TOO?
IF I MUST GO BACK.
I HEARD YOU TWO TALKING.
SO I JUST FOLLOWED YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
YOUR MAJESTY! THIS PLACE MAY BE DANGER-OUS!
!!!
...IS SERVED!
YES?
YOUR MAJESTY!
YOUR ...
Y-Y-YOUR ...

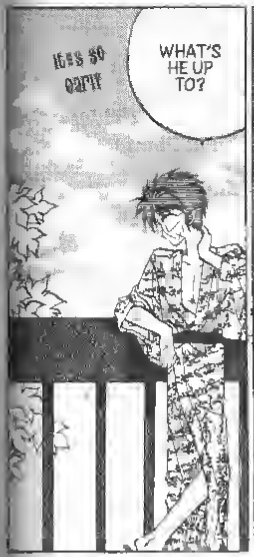
HUH?

REALLY?
THANK YOU!
RUWALK! ALFEEG!!
BUT PLEASE STAY CLOSE TO US.
...YOU MAY STAY.
Your Majesty...
LET ME CARRY THAT.
YOUR HIGH-NESS.

A DEAD END?
NO WAY.

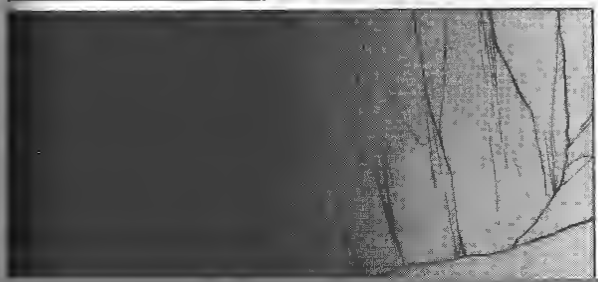
Pat

PERHAPS THERE'S SOMETHING ON THE OTHER SIDE?
I SENSE SOMETHING... WHAT IS IT...
THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.
AND IT'S JUST A NORMAL CAVE.
WE CAME ALL THIS WAY.


WHAT'S HE UP TO?

gleam

I CAN'T DO IT...



AS IF IT'S MEANT TO CONFUSE OR HIDE SOMETHING.
IT REMINDS ME OF...
THE PATH LOOKS NORMAL...
YES. IT'S JUST LIKE...
THIS IS...
UMM... YOUR MAJESTY?
I KNEW IT!
A ROPE OF DECEPTION!
ALFEEG!!
PULL THIS ROPE!
grow!!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
WE'LL HAVE TO DIG.
OH, ALFEEG!
Can you handle it?
IT LOOKS LIKE WE SHOULD EAT FIRST.
I SENSE SOMETHING...
I AM SO HAPPY.
Can't believe it
PLEASE EAT UP.
IT'S JUST A LITTLE SNACK.
MY! THE QUEEN MADE ALL THIS?

?!

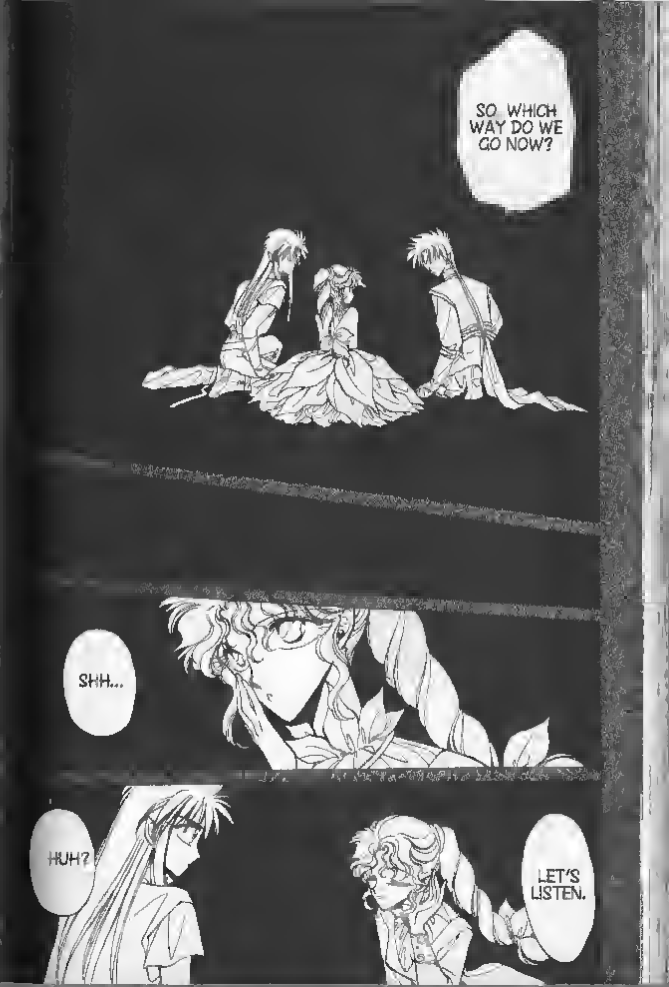
THE ROPE?

YOU MEAN THIS?

WE'RE FALLING!

THIS ROPE CREATES ILLUSIONS.
THE PATH WE TOOK DIDN'T REALLY EXIST.
WHAT HAP-PENED?
WHERE ARE WE?
YES. THE ENTIRE TIME.
A FAKE PATH?!
YOU MEAN...
WE WALKED IN PLACE THE WHOLE TIME.

MAYBE WE'LL HEAR SOMETHING.
?
silence
ALFEEG!
RUWALK!
WHO'S THERE?!
.....
!
.....
WHAT?


SO, WHICH WAY DO WE GO NOW?
SHH...
HUH?
LET'S LISTEN.

RATH!
WHERE'S YOUR BIRD, KID?
UM, IT'S AROUND.
AND YOU'RE JUST SITTING.
HUH?!

HEY...
CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE DEMONS?
SURE. LIKE WHAT?
WELL...
I CUT OFF NADIL'S HEAD WITH A DEMON SWORD.
YET THE DEMONS ARE STILL GATHERING.
WHY?
BECAUSE OF SHYDEMAN AND SHYRENDORA.

RIGHT. HAVEN'T YOU SEE THEM BEFORE?
NADIL'S COMMANDERS?
?
FORGET IT. ANYWAY...

CAN I ASK SOMETHING?
HOW COME YOU CAN'T WALK?
IT'S ZOMA, RIGHT?
UH, YEAH.

THE BIRD AND I WERE SEPARATED AT BIRTH.
SO I CAN'T MOVE MY LEGS.
IT'S LIKE...
I'M A BIRD THAT CAN'T WALK OR FLY.

ARE YOU...
THE DRAGON QUEEN?
Whisper
WHO ARE YOU?
NO!
RU-WALK! YOUR HIGH-NESS!
WHAT ARE THEY SAY-ING?
Whisper
UH, THAT'S NOT HIS REAL FACE.
I'LL MISS THAT FUNNY FACE, THOUGH.
WANNA MERGE WITH YOUR BIRD?
THEN YOU CAN WALK.
WHAT?
IF MY BIRD AND I WERE REJOINED, I COULD PROTECT CESIA...
I JUST MIGHT ASK YOU ...
TO DO THAT SOME-DAY-
YOU KNOW ...

WHAT?
YOU ...
WILL KEEP THIS ALTAR.

I'LL FOR-GIVE YOU THEN...
WHAT?
A SWIRLING LIGHT?!
UGHH!

THIS ...
IS THE ALTAR THAT...

BE CAREFUL.
WHAT'S IN IT, RUWALK?
AN ALTAR, YOUR MAJESTY?
YES. THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.
LET'S LOOK INSIDE.
PLEASE WAIT! ALLOW ME.
WE MUST BE CAREFUL.
IT'S NOT A GRAVE? IT LOOKS LIKE A COFFIN.

SO ARE THE LOCK AND CHAINS.
THE LID IS BROKEN.
MAYBE THE ROPE OF DECEPTION WAS PLACED THERE ...
TO HIDE THIS COFFIN.
HERE.
YOUR HIGHNESS MUST NOT GET WET.
YES?
ALFEEO.
LET'S GO LOOK.
YOUR MAJESTY!
THATZ WOULD BE DIS-APPOINTED. NO TREASURE.
OF COURSE. IT'S MY JOB.
THANK YOU.
MY, YOU'RE STRONG.

SO YOU'RE BIERREZ, EH?
THE YOKAI WHO CAN ENTER THE DRAGON CASTLE?
HAVE YOU HEARD?
THEY SAY NADIL'S HEAD IS IN THERE.
TELL US WHAT YOUR SECRET IS, MAN.

AT LEAST NOW WE KNOW THE PATH DOESN'T LEAD TO A DEMON CASTLE.
OR TO AN EXIT.

AND MY BLOOD COULD BE THE KEY TO GETTING INSIDE THE CASTLE.
IN FACT, I DID.
IT EXPLAINS HOW TO MAKE DEMONS...
.....
I HAVE AN IDEA.
GIVE US SOME OF YOUR MAGIC BLOOD, MAN.
WE WANT NADIL'S HEAD.
THOSE LOUSY GANGS...!
I'M AFRAID NOT.
WHERE'D YOU FIND SUCH A RARE BOOK?
DID YA READ WHAT'S IN IT?
OH, WOW.
IT'S ALCHEMIST KARL'S DEMON BIBLE.
NADIL'S BROWN-NOSER'S STUDYING, EH?

Dragon Knights

Preview for Vol. 4:
With the Yokai forces amassing to attack the castle, an air of tension has befallen the court - Rath is itching for Bierrez to show his face again, Thatz salivates for treasure and food, and Rune loses himself in a world of self-contemplation, trying to regain the elfin healing powers he lost upon joining the Dragon Tribe. But no matter how disparate their concerns, they must band together with the Dragon Lord Lykouleon and the other Dragon Officers to face Nadil's army. However, Zoma goes missing, Rath may be dying, and the heroes are beginning to show signs of doubt about their chances against a formidable foe.